A NOTE ON *GRONA SIMPLICIFOLIA* (DALZ.) RAIZADA (LEGUMINOSAE) FROM INDIA

Galactia simplicifolia Dalz. (1851) based on plants from Tullawaree of Sahadry Hills of Concan, India, is a later heterotypic homonym of *G. simplicifolia* Sprengel (Syst. IV. Cur. Post. 282. 1827) based on plants from Papayan, Columbia, South America, which, in turn, is a superfluous name for *Cologania procumbens* Kunth (1824). Presumably aware of this situation, Baker (1876) proposed a new name, *Grona dalzelli* Baker based on Dalzell's and Stocks's plants from Concan and cited *Galactia simplicifolia* Dalz. as an obligate synonym. Since *Grona* Benth. & Hook. f. (1865) is a later homonym of *Grona* Lour. (1780), which is considered by Merrill (1935) as a synonym of the conserved genus *Desmodium* Desv. (1813) (and by some others as a genus of uncertain application), Merrill (l.c.) proposed a new genus *NOGRA* Merrill (an anagram of *Grona* Benth. & Hook. f.) and made the new combination *Nogra dalzelli* (Baker) Merrill, based on *Grona dalzelli* Baker and cited *Galactia simplicifolia* Dalzell (1851) as a nomenclatural synonym. In the circumstances, *Grona simplicifolia* (Dlaz.) Raizada (1958) based on an illegitimate name *Galactia simplicifolia* Dalz., is also illegitimate and has to be cited as a synonym of *Nogra dalzelli* (Baker) Merrill.

The citations are as follows: **Nogra dalzelli** (Baker) Merrill in Trans. Amer. Phil. Soc. n.s. 24(2): 201. 1935. Basionym: *Grona dalzelli* Baker in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 2: 191. 1876. Syntypes: India, Concan, (fruiting) *Dalzell* s.n. (K!), & Concan, (flowering) *Stocks* s.n. (K!).

Synonym: *Galactia simplicifolia* Dalzell in Hook. J. Bot. Kew Gard. Miscel. 3: 209. 1851; Dalz. & Gibs. Bombay Fl. 69. 1861, *non* Sprengel (1827), *nomen illegit.*

Type: "Crescit in Jugo Syhadrensi Prope Tullawaree" (not seen). *Grona simplicifolia* (Dalz.) Raizada in Indian Forester 84: 486. 1958 *nomen illegit.* Apart from the syntypes cited for *Grona dalzelli* Baker, the other specimens examined at Kew Herb. are:

INDIA: Concan (flowering) *Stocks* s.n.; Concan (flowering and fruiting) *Stocks* s.n.; Maharastra, Panchgani, 1300 m., Oct. 1920, (flowering) *Bahadur* 7562.

Incidentally, it may be stated that the genus *Nogra* Merrill comprises 3 spp.: while *N. dalzelli* (Baker) Merrill is restricted to the Western Ghats of India, *N. filicaulis* (Kurz) Merrill, based on *Kurz* s.n. is apparently endemic to the Pegu region of Burma (but no specimen including the 'type' is traceable at K); *N. grahamii* (Wall. ex Benth.) based on *Grona grahamii* Wall. ex Benth. although, more wide-spread from India to Thailand, is represented at the Kew Herb. by only one specimen from India, *viz. Haines* 4638 from Bonai, Orissa, by only the 'Type' specimen *Wallich* 5513 (1826) from Prome, Burma and by three collections from Thailand.

G. PANIGRAHI
Botanical Survey of India, Howrah

TWO NEW FLOWERING PLANTS FROM SOUTH INDIA

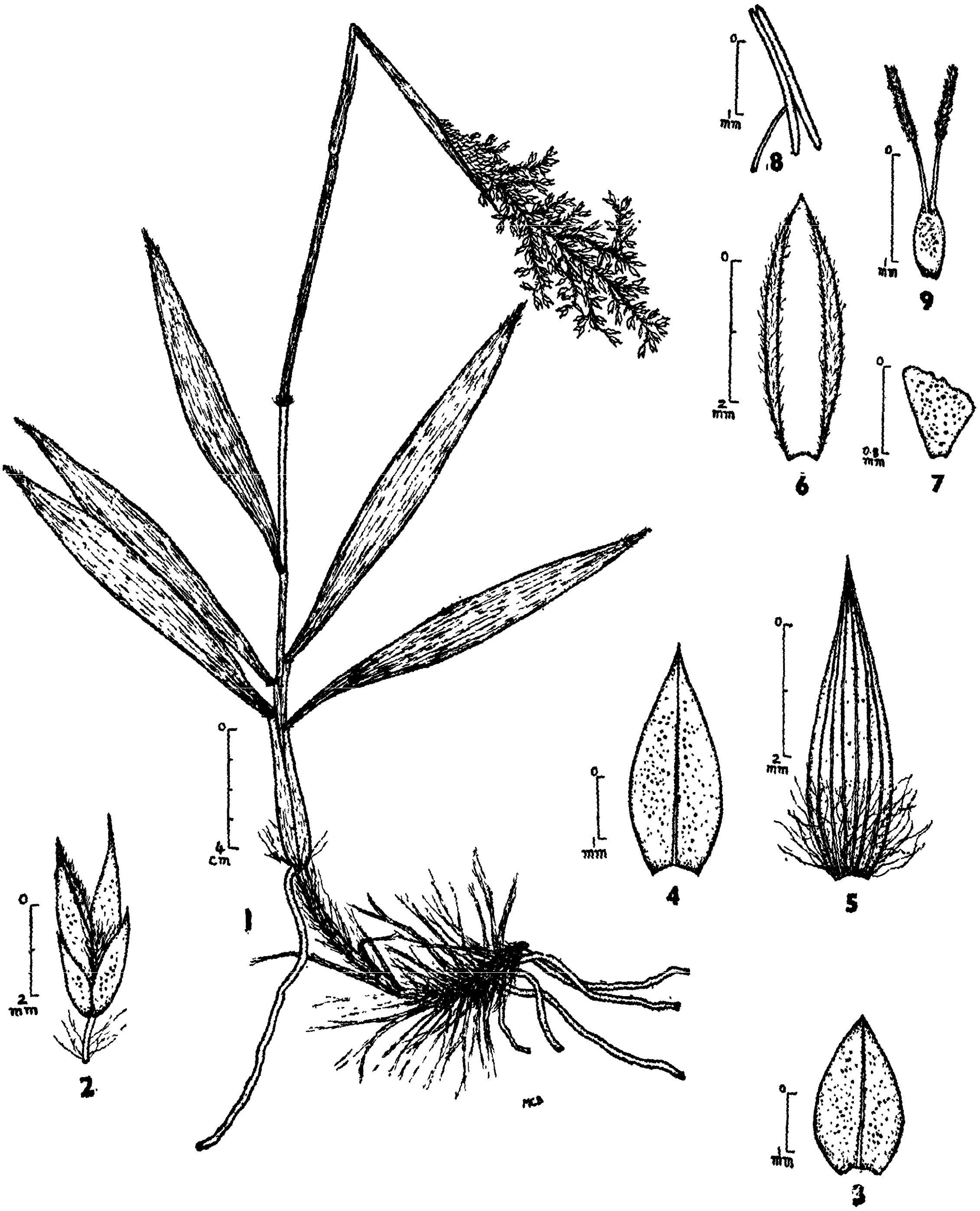
POACEAE

Zenkeria sebastinei Henry & Chandr. sp. nov.

Affinis *Z. obtusiflorae* (Thw.) Benth., sed differt eo quod culmi et folii sunt breviores, spiculae longiores, lemmata acuminata.

Holotypus *Henry* 17325 *A* et isotypi *Henry* 17325 *B-F* lecti ad Agastyamalai, dist, Tirunelveli in statu Tamil Nadu (Madras) die 26-8-1963 ; holotypus positus in CAL, isotypi in MH.

Perennial herbs; culms; 30-45 cm long, erect from a decumbent rooting base; nodes hairy; internodes 0.7-12 cm long. Leaves 5-17 × 1-2.2 cm, suberect, rigid, chartaceous, narrowly elliptic, tapering at both ends, pun-



Zenkeria sebastinei Henry & Chandr.
Text figs. 1-9: 1. Plant. 2. Spikelet. 3. Lower glume. 4. Upper glume. 5. Lemma. 6. Palea. 7. Lodicule. 8. Stamen. 9. Pistil.

gent, sparsely hairy towards apex, margins thickened, scabrous; sheaths 5-7 cm long, chartaceous, glabrous, basal ones breaking up into fibres; ligule a fringe of hairs. Panicles up to 15 cm long, densely flowered with capillary, villous, spreading branches. Spikelets 4-4.5 mm long, all alike, each 2-flowered, bisexual; rachilla very short, not produced, bearded, disarticulating above the glumes. Glumes unequal, lower *ca* 2.5 × 1.3 mm, upper *ca* 3.5 × 1.7 mm, ovate to ovate-lanceolate, acute, hyaline, glabrous, 1-nerved, keeled, persistent, spreading. Lemmas *ca* 4.5 × 1.3 mm, lanceolate, acuminate, 5-6 nerved, coriaceous, hairy below the middle. Paleas *ca* 3.7 × 1.2 mm, 2-keeled, hyaline, long-ciliate along the keels. Lodicules 2, each *ca* 0.8 × 0.5 mm, obovate or obliquely obovate. Stamens 3; anthers 2-2.2 mm long, narrow; filaments short. Ovary *ca* 0.7 × 0.2 mm, oblong, glabrous; styles 2, each *ca* 0.5 mm long, slender; stigma *ca* 0.7 mm long, feathery. Grains not seen. (Text figs. 1-9).

The holotype *Henry* 17325 *A* (CAL) and isotypes *Henry* 17325 *B-F* (MH) were collected in Agastyamalai in Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu (Madras State) on 26-8-1963.

This species is allied to *Zenkeria obtusiflora* (Thw.) Benth. but differs in the shorter culms and leaves, longer spikelets and acuminate lemmas.

The specific epithet is given in honour of late Dr. K. M. Sebastine, former Regional Botanist, Botanical Survey of India, Southern Circle, Coimbatore.

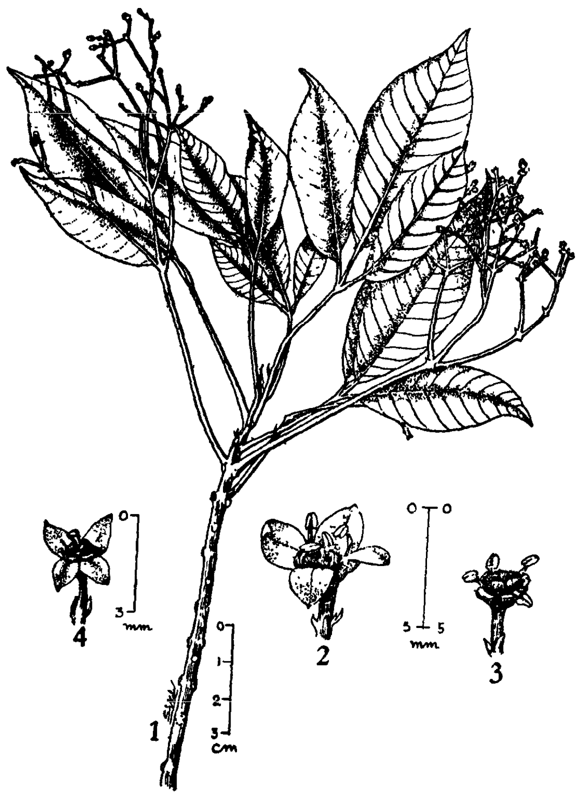
RUTACEAE

Euodia lunu-ankenda (Gaertn.) Merrill var. **tirunelvelica** Henry & Chandr. var. nov.

A typo differt foliis minoribus, membranaceis, apicem versus confertis, inflorescentiis paniculato-cymosis, tenuibus, glabris, patentibus.

Holotypus *Henry & Chandrabose* 19224 *A* et isotypi *Henry & Chandrabose* 19224 *B-F* lecti ad collibus Agastyamalai, dist. Tirunelveli in statu Tamil Nadu die 2-7-1964. Paratypus *Barber* 2934 eodem loco lectus die 22-5-1901. Holotypus positus in CAL; isotypi et paratypus in MH.

Trees, 5-7 m tall; branches yellowish; scarred, glabrous. Leaves 3-foliolate, opposite, crowded towards ends of branches; petioles 2.5-5.8 cm long, glabrous. Leaflets 4-7.8 × 1.5-3 cm, elliptic-lanceolate or oblanceolate, membranous, glabrous, entire, acuminate at apex, cuneate and somewhat unequal-sided at base. Flowers 3-4 mm across, white, unisexual, in axillary, slender, sparse, spreading, glabrous, bracteate, paniculate cymes; pedicels 1.5-3 mm long; sepals 4, imbricate; petals 4, valvate or slightly imbricate; disk 4-lobed, pubescent. Male flowers: Stamens 4, inserted at base of disk; filaments subulate, glabrous; anthers oblong; pistillode present. Female flowers: Ovary pubescent, deeply 4-lobed, 4-loculed, ovules 2 in each



Euodia lunu-ankenda var. *tirunelvelica* Henry & Chandr.
Text figs. 1-4 : 1. Flowering branch. 2. Staminate flower. 3. Staminate flower (petals removed). 4. Pistillate flower.

locule; style basilar, thick; stigma obsoletely 4-lobed; staminodes 4, with small barren anthers. Fruit not seen. (Text figs. 1-4).

This new variety differs from the typical variety in having small, membranous leaves crowded towards the ends of branches, and flowers in slender, sparse, spreading, glabrous, paniculate cymes.

A rare plant; only few trees were observed on exposed rocky slopes and along the outskirts of evergreen forests at the top of Agastyamalai Hills.

In 1915, J.S. Gamble while examining *Barber* 2934, indicated on the herbarium sheet that it belonged to a variety of *Euodia lunuankenda* but left it undescribed. As a result of our studies conducted both in the field and in herbaria, we have no hesitation in following up Gamble's hint and describing this as a new variety.

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A. N. Henry and M. Chandrabose
Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore

SEBAEA KHASIANA C. B. CL.—A LITTLE KNOWN GENTIANACEAE HERB FROM KAMENG DISTRICT, ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Sebaea khasiana was described by C. B. Clarke (1875) on a collection of his from Kollong Rock in the Khasi Hills. Subsequently in his account of the family Gentianaceae for the Flora of British India (1883), Clarke indicated the distribution in N. W. Himalayas and Nepal on the basis of collections of Edgeworth and Wallich respectively. *Sebaea* R. Br. is a genus with a scattered distribution, (apart from India) in Africa, Madagascar, Australia and New Zealand. Although Clarke described his plant as a new species, he remarked that "............... the plant collected by Welwitsch in Angola is identical with the Indian, except that its anthers are minutely apiculate". Welwitsch's plant (*S. welwitschii*) as also Clarke's *S. khasiana* have been treated as conspecific with *S. aurea* R. Br. However, a definite taxonomic and nomenclatural conclusion can be arrived at only on the basis of a detailed study of adequate materials. In the attempt to do this in the context of a small collection of these plants from Kameng district, material was requested on loan, and it was found that excepting for just one sheet of Clarke's in the Calcutta Herbarium (*In saxo Kollong, Khasiae, s.n.*) there is no other collection available in the Indian Herbaria. Very likely Edgeworth's and Wallich's specimens are in England. Our collection therefore is of considerable interest as the first after more than a century of the original collection and further as an additional locality, now in the Eastern Himalayas. In view of the paucity of earlier Indian materials for study and the difficulty involved in obtaining extra Indian materials, we are abstaining from deciding on the identity of the Indian plant with that of the African or Australian ones, and in the thought that it would help additional collections in other localities we are providing a detailed description with illustration (figs. 1-5) and also its pollen morphology.

Sebaea khasiana C. B. Cl. in J. Linn. Soc.